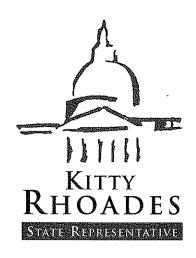
January 13, 2010

Senator Kathleen Vinehout, Co-Chair Joint Legislative Audit Committee State Capitol. Room 104 South Madison, WI 53702

Representative Peter Barca, Co-Chair Joint Legislative Audit Committee State Capitol, Room 107 North Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Vinehout and Representative Barca:

I am writing to request that the Legislative Audit Bureau conduct a program and financial audit of the Family care Program. I, along with many other legislators, as well as Family Care consumers and providers, have long-standing concerns about the accuracy of the long-term care cost savings predicted by implementing the Family Care program. I also have concerns that the managed care model that is the cornerstone of the Family Care program may be resulting in service cutbacks to vulnerable elderly and disabled persons.



P.O. Box 8953 Madison, WI 53708-8953

(608) 266-1526 Toll-Free: (888) 529-0030 Rep.Rhoades@legis.wi.gov

DISTRICT PHONE: (715) 386-0660

The Assembly Committee on Aging and Long Term Care, of which I am a member, held an informational hearing on Family Care on November 12, 2009. Much of the testimony of managed care organizations (MCOs), counties, and consumers validated many of my long-standing concerns. In this time of budget cuts in every state program, the Family Care program appears to be squeezed to the point that it is unable to accommodate the service needs of the enrollees.

Specifically, I would request that the audit focus on both the financial sustainability of Family Care, and the ability of the program to meet service needs of participants. Such an audit could examine the adequacy of funding through the capitated rates to MCOs to support service needs of Family Care enrollees, and the financial solvency of MCOs and the ability of MCOs to maintain required financial reserves, among other issues.

Thank you for considering this audit request. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this request.

Sincerely,

Kitty Rhoades
State Representative

30th Assembly District

CC: Assembly Speaker Mike Sheridan

Rep. Mark Pocan, Co-Chair - Joint Committee on Finance

Rep. Peggy Krusick, Chair - Assembly Aging and Long Term Care Committee

Members – Assembly Aging and Long Term Care Committee

Janice Mueller, State Auditor - Legislative Audit Bureau